

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 RANGOO 03109 250918Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----105393 251954Z /45
R 250748Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5836

S E C R E T RANGOON 3109

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1,2
TAGS: SNAR, BM
SUBJECT: END USE MONITORING OF NCAP-PROVIDED AIRCRAFT

REF: STATE 200311 AND PREVIOUS

1. IN RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE USE OF
NCAP-PROVIDED AIRCRAFT, THE EMBASSY RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING
LETTER FROM THE MINISTER OF HOME AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS DATED
AUGUST 18, 1978: QUOTE:

DEAR AMBASSADOR,
I WRITE IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF YOUR LETTER OF AUGUST 10,
1978 RELATING TO THE NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION EFFORTS OF THE
BURMESE GOVERNMENT ON THE UTILIZATION OF US-PROVIDED EQUIPMENT.

AS YOU KNOW, MUCH OF OUR OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES ARE
IN VERY REMOTE AND DIFFICULT AREAS WITH POOR ACCESSIBILITY.
THIS HAS NOT DETERRED US, THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR DRUG
ABUSE CONTROL AND THE VARIOUS SUB-COMMITTEES UNDER IT, FROM
DOING OUR UTMOST IN THE ERADICATION OF DRUG ABUSE. I NEED
HARDLY SAY THAT THE US-PROVIDED EQUIPMENT IS OF GREAT CONTRIBU-
TION IN FACILITATING OUR EFFORTS IN THE FIELD OF NARCOTICS
SUPPRESSION.

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AS REQUESTED BY YOU, I AM SENDING FOR YOUR INFORMATION, AS
ATTACHED, THE NECESSARY DATA ON THE UTILIZATION OF YOUR
EQUIPMENT.

SINCERELY,
/S/ (COL. SEIN LWIN)
CHAIRMAN. END QUOTE

2. THE REPORT ATTACHED TO THE MINISTER'S LETTER WHICH IS BEING
POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT, C/O S/NM, GIVES DATA ON TOTAL ANNUAL
USAGE SINCE US-PROVIDED AIRCRAFT ARRIVED IN BURMA. FOLLOWING ARE
THE FIGURES FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1978, AS REQUESTED
IN THE AMBASSADOR'S LETTER OF AUGUST 10, 1978, TO THE MINISTER
OF HOME AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS:

A. BELL 205 A

OPERATIONS (RECONNAISSANCE, POPPY FIELD OPERATIONS AND FERRYING TROOPS FOR ANTI-NARCOTICS OPERATIONS	3924 HRS. 20 MIN.
TRAINING	2318 HRS. 15 MIN.
OTHER FLYING (TECHNICAL AND PERFORMANCE TEST FLIGHTS)	624 HRS. 10 MIN.
TOTAL FLYING TIME	6866 HRS. 45 MIN.

B. FIXED WING AIRCRAFT

OPERATIONS	1123 HRS. 45 MIN.
TRAINING	273 HRS. 10 MIN.
OTHER FLYING	65 HRS. 15 MIN.
TOTAL	1462 HRS. 10 MIN.

3. COMMENT: THE MINISTER'S REPLY IS RESPONSIVE TO THE FIRST, AND
MOST IMPORTANT PART, OF OUR REQUEST. NO INFORMATION WAS OFFERED
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ON THE SECOND AND THIRD PARTS, I.E., MAINTENANCE AVAILABILITY
RATE OR GENERAL LOCATION OF THE AIRCRAFT. THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS
THIS INFORMATION MUCH LESS IMPORTANT THAN THE FIRST PART, SINCE
IT HAS NO APPARENT RELATION TO THE 1974 AGREEMENT. ALSO, WE CAN
GET MUCH OF THIS FROM OUR OWN SOURCES. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHER-
WISE, WE DO NOT PLAN TO PRESS THE GUB FOR THIS OTHER DATA.

4. AS IS APPARENT FROM THE FIGURES, THE BURMESE CONSIDER THAT
PRACTICALLY ALL THEIR USE OF THESE AIRCRAFT IS IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE TERMS OF THE 1974 AGREEMENT. THE EMBASSY IS IN THE
PROCESS OF EVALUATING THE DATA PROVIDED, IN CONJUNCTION WITH
OUR INDEPENDENT MONITORING. WE WILL REPORT OUR FINDINGS WHEN
THE EVALUATION IS COMPLETED.
Corry

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MONITORING, AIRCRAFT, DRUG CONTROL, TEXT, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978RANGOO03109
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DC IS ALSO X1
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780349-0124
Format: TEL
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780823/aaaaasxh.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8054755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 200311
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1619911
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: END USE MONITORING OF NCAP-PROVIDED AIRCRAFT
TAGS: SNAR, BM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8054755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014